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Attorney Docket No. 5000.221 Confirmation No. 2872

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Sumakeris et al.

Group Art Unit: 2832

Serial No. 10/046,346

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Filed: October 26, 2001 For: MINIMIZING D

MINIMIZING DEGRADATION OF SIC BIPOLAR SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES

November 13, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the application as follows:

On page 1, please replace Paragraph 0001 as filed with the following paragraph:

[0001] This invention was developed with Government support under Government contracts F33615-01-2-2108 and F33615-00-C-5403. The Government may have certain rights in this invention. The present invention relates to increasing the quality and desired properties of semiconductor materials used in electronic devices, particularly power electronic devices. In particular, the invention relates to an improved process for minimizing crystal defects in silicon carbide, and the resulting improved structures and devices.

Respectfully submitted,

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